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Atterney-at-law. Office on second floor of Anderson building, near Court House, Butler,

NEWTON BLACK.

L. S. McJUNKIN

Att'y at Law-Office on South side of Dis Butler, Pa.

Attorney-at-Law.

BUTLER, PA., FRIDAY, DECEMBER 25, 1891.

PROFESSIONAL CARDS. JOSEPH W. MILLER, M. D. Physician and Surgeon, and residence at 338 S. Main St. Butle Dr. N. M. HOOVER, 137 E. Wayne St., office hours, 10 to 12 M. and 10 3 P. M. L. M. REINSEL, M. D. PHYSICIAN AND SURGEON.

IF ANY SHOE WAS EVFR worthy of a bigh place in history, it is our School Shoe. There is no necessity for putting their history into book form. You "soon know enough about them if you wear a pair of them." It wont take you long to find out that when you bought them you were buy ing splendid service for very little

The first thing you discour is that ren are thereughly at case in them

no cheaper shoes on earth than our Ladies Fine Shoes at \$1.00, \$1.25, \$1.50 and \$2.00. Then see the Ladies Heavy Shoes in A Calf, Glove Grain, Oil Grain, Kip and Calf at 75 cts, \$1.00, \$1.25 and \$1.50 Our Mens and Boys Kip Boots and Shoes from the cheap Brogan to the finest hand sewed shoes. Our Old Ladies Warm Shoes are splendid .-- None

Of the choicest patterns now ready. In buying Christmas presents why not buy something in the way of Boots and Shoes or Slippers. They are useful and are always appreciated.

At 50 cts Genta Company Company Christmas presents why not buy something in the way of Boots and Shoes or Slippers. Office at No. 45, 8. Main street, over Frank & Co's Drug Store. Butler, Pa,

At 75 cts Gents Fine Embroiderd Velvet Slippers

At \$1.00 Gents Plush slippers in beautiful shades

At \$1 25 and \$1.50, the patterns are beauful, in different colors-in Blue, Old Gold, Seal Brown and Tobacco Brown. Then the Maroon Goat at \$1.00, \$1.25 and Tan Calf at \$1.50 are beauties. Then the Russia Leather in the dark wine color and the Alligators are the finest Slippers in the market. Our Ladies Slippers are fine-large selection-no house can show so large a selection or as fine styles and at as low prices as these goods are. Don't fail to come in and buy a pair or two before stock is broken

B. C. HUSELTON, - - 102 N. Main St., Butler, PA

rtidcial Teeth inserted on the latest im-ed plan. Gold Filling a specialty. Office-Schaul's Clothing Store. Closing out Sale DENTIST, - - BUTLER, PA. OF WINTER

BOOTS, SHOES RUBBERS.

Regardless of Cost. If you are looking for bargains go to

A lively sale is now going on in all kinds of footwear. Price no object the principal thing is to reduce stock. I find myself with a very large stock of winter goods which I will not carry over it low figures on them will have

All Kinds of Stoga Boots go. I sold Boots low at the beginning of the season. Now I am almost giving them away. Mens Boots, \$1.50; Boys Boots, \$1.25; Youths Boots, \$1.00; Childs Boots, 75 cts.

Ladies, Misses and Childrens Shoes Go

Shoddy shoes are dear at any price. These goods are all fresh, desirable goods and are going to be sold very cheap My stock of children's school shoes are very desirable and selling lower than ever before.

John Hendrickson, a sturdy and practical young man, fell in love with Edith Boulonger when she was eighteen years old. But Mr. Boulonger wished his daughter to marry a college-bred Felt Boots are in the Push with Rubber man who was the descard cultured family.

Goods. Office on second floor of the Huselton bloc tamond, Butler, Pa., Room No. 1.

These goods are just in season and now is the time to see them, now is when you want them and you can buy them cheap

Boots and Shoes Made to Order Holiday Slippers in Great Variety.

Repairing neatly and promptly done.

Ask for 1892 Calander.

WOOL BOOTS

Perfection Heel & Tap Overs

FOR THE COMBINATION.

We offer the Farmers of Butler Co., this season the greatest value fo

CANDEE BUCKLE OVERS.

This well known brand of overs., which forms over one half of the

Insurance and Real Estate Ag't

17 EAST JEFFERSON, ST. BUTLER, - PA. HIJIER COUNTY Mutual Fire Insurance Co.

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LOYAL S. M'JUNKIN, Agent.

BUTLER, PA

A. E. GABLE,

the money they have ever had.

The Boots are the heaviest and best made and are fitted with joint and back stay of leather. They are all wool and seamless, made mammoth size and then fulled down to the proper dimensions. They combine Softness, Pliability and Durability and will keep your feet warm the coldest day. Veterinary Surgeon. Orliege, Toronto, Canada,
Dr. Gable treats all diseases of the
domesticated animals, and makes
ridgling, castration and horse den-

istry a specialty. Castration per-ormed without clams, and all other Calls to any part of the country promptly responded to.

Office and Infirmary in Crawford's

Livery, 132 West Jesserson Street, Butler Pa.

G. D. HARVEY,

great combination needs no comment as to their quality. Every one knows that they are one of the best makes of rubber goods on the market to day Their style is that of a buckle ankle boot. The buckle is a patent clasp. They have solid Heels and Taps. The taps over extra thick at the ball

where the most wear comes.

We will sell either part of the combination separately for \$1.00 per pair This will give those who have boots but no shoes a chance to buy the best shoes at less than wholesale prices and vice versa.

A last word. Don't delay in buying. We have lots of these goods

now but no telling how long they will last at these prices.

114 South Main Street.

Butler, Pa



THE UNEXPECTED GUEST.

An Odd Christmas Story of Twin



and rich but con spicuously sense. Never-theless he was lucky to an ex-

"OH, FATHER! SPARE HIM!"

Hendrickson soon left in disgust. Had he not loved the daughter deeply, he would have objected to marrying into a family the head of which was so

influences, and the family moved into

tendencies Mr. Boulonger, when spring arrived, set about carrying into effect a

ranged their contents so systematically that the interiors of the structures were

exactly similar. His son and daughter

were twins, he said, and ought to live in twin houses, his design being to have

the other after each had succeeded in getting married. He selected a minis-ter for Edith; but the young lady did

not favor her father's plan, and the

dominie made as poor progress in his courtship as he did in writing sermons

that contained original and interesting

marry immediately, Mr. Boulonger moved with his family into one of the furnished houses and rented the other house to a Mr. Belnap, a friend who also knew John Hendrickson and liked

ed as a confidential messenger between his sister and her lover; and the three

with Mr. Belnap and Mrs. Boulonger as confederates, devised an artful plan by which it was hoped the elder Bou-

longer might be persuaded to accept
Hendrickson as a son-in-law.

At the approach of the holiday season the young farmer came to Boston and became the guest of Mr. Belnap, much to the annoyance of Rudolph

Christmas eve. Then in the midst of a blinding snowstorm James Boulonger returned home at midnight. The rest of

the family were abed and asleep and

startled from their slumbers by the cry: "Robbers, robbers!"

snow, thinking it was the right one.

not been disturbed.

Finding that his children would not

great a fool.

men toiled faithfully for years and used the best judgment, but their ventures failed. Fate was their relentless enemy. Bou-longer would do something which in the eyes of the wise stamped him as a fool, and yet his seemingly brainless act would bring him a small fortune.

His boyhood was one of ease, his father being in good circumstances and requiring nothing more of his son than that he should go to school and college and learn from books all that he could. Rudolph had a splendid memory, and absorbed printed knowledge as readily as a sponge sucks up water. He gave no attention to anything except books until the death of his father compelled him to think how he should live and pay his bills. The fortune left him was modest, and his friends, knowing what a lamentably impractical person he was, advised him to put his money in a savings bank, not to marry, and to live economically. He rejected their advice with scorn. He wished to travel abroad and enjoy luxuries. He invested nearly all of his fortune in a gold mine. His friends were horror-strick-en. They said his money would surely be lost in the wildcat scheme, and that, as he was utterly incapable of making a living, he would be obliged to go to the poorhouse, and eventually, perhaps, to the retreat for imbeciles. But to the surprise of the foreboders the mine soon proved to be one of the richest on dolph possessed a half million dollars.

Henceforth his career was marked by a succession of lucky blunders. He would buy real estate in a wilderness where only the remains of Indian tribes could

equally absurd, but made money every In spite of his many eccentricities he secured for a wife a beautiful and ac-complished girl. How she ever allowed berself to marry him was a marvel to those who knew them. But they appeared to live happily together. Their children, twins named James and Edith, were sensible like their mother.

time a railroad would be run through

his land and he would sell building lots

at a handsome profit for the establish-

ment of a village. He did other things

The family resided in a fine country mansion about a mile from the out-skirts of Boston. Their nearest neighbor was a well-to-do farmer whose son, John Hendrickson, a sturdy and pracendant of an old



YOU CAN NEVER MARRY MY DAUGHTER.' be rich enough to lead a life of elegant leisure or else should be a professional man; doctor or lawyer admissible, but

sions had no effect upon the independent

American except to make him despise

portant one is that you do not belong to a cultured family and are not college bred. You are neither an Artium Bacca-laureus nor an Artium Magister. Moretaureus nor an Artium Magister. Moreover, you deceived me when I bought that Jersey cow of you. As soon as she she pinioned her infuriated parent's was in my stable I ordered my hired man to milk her. He reported that he could not obtain any milk Thinking the pail might leak, I ordered him to go to a tin shop and buy a new, tight pail. He at once obeyed. He placed the new pail under the cow and again been visiting Mr. Belnap, and that this manipulated the udders. There was no house and the one in which he lives are flow whatever. The cow's bag was just alike outside and in. I approached small and shrunken. It was a clear this house in the midst of blinding case of desiccation. For lacteal purses the animal was useless. I sold found the door unlocked, but supposed Mr. Belnap had forgotten to secure it

Hendrickson could searcely restrain a after him. I entered and locked the the cow," he exclaimed. "I had milked left my coat and rubbers there. I then her just before sending her to your place and of course her bag was empty."

Rudolph was not astonished. Evidences of his stupidity were too fredences of his stupidity were t

quently brought to his attention to I went to the same book which I and ober reading at Mr. Belnap's. About one o'clock I went to the bedroom which I suphe was too pigheaded to acknowledge an unwelcome truth while he could an unwelcome truth while he could think of any pretext with which to combat it.

"An ingenious excuse on your part," he replied stiffly, "but it will not anbut the replied stiffly, "but it will not anbut the replied stiffly, but it will not anbut the replied stiffly, "but it will not anbut the replied stiffly anbut the replied stiff

James. He did not add, however, that he had left the door unlocked purposely and was not surprised by what had subse-

quently occurred.

Rudolph Boulonger shuddered, not knowing that he had been firing blank cartridges that had thoughtfully been provided for his use, and was glad that he had not killed an innocent man. He felt that he had greatly wronged John Hendrickson; he observed with alarm the highly-wrought feelings of his daughter; his nerves were too much shaken for him to deny that the twin houses which his eccentricity had caused him to erect and furnish alike were responsible for the unwelcome occurrence, and he was glad to make peace by giving the intruder permission to marry Edith. The next day the family sat down to

a splendid Christmas dinner in their home, and John Hendrickson, the unexpected guest, was entertained by them in a very pleasant manner. "It is a fitting occasion for a reconciliation," said Rudolph Boulonger, whose recent experience had made him unusually regardful of religion. "I for

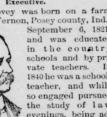


The others acquiesced in the worthy

It was a sad Christmas eve for the Mrs. and Mrs. James Boulonger now reside in the twin houses, and every Christmas the two families and Mr. and lovers. John bade Edith farewell with the knowledge that a long time would probably elapse before they could meet Mrs. Rudolph Boulonger dine together in one of the peculiar dwellings.
It is said that on one of the happy o

As for Mr. Boulonger, he made up his mind that his children were being vul-garized by too much contact with rural casions Rudolph Boulonger was gently told of the ruse by which he had been deceived, Edith and her husband exthe city, where they boarded at a hotel during the greater part of the next year. In conformity with his eccentric cusing themselves by saying that there had been love and war and that all tactics were fair in both. It is further reported that the old gentleman forgave the couple, having in the mean-time learned from the owner of the long cherished plan. He purchased two adjoining building lots in the sub-Jersew cow that that animal had given a good mess of milk eight hours after she had left the Boulonger farm. urbs of Boston and erected upon them two large square houses that were built and painted just alike. He also furnished the houses so carefully and ar

More Ravaging Than Time. Mrs. Cobwigger-Now, my dear, if you will cook the plum pudding just as were twins, he said, and ought to live in twin houses, his design being to have James live in one house and Edith in Johnnie.—Life.



the study of law evenings, being admitted to the bar in 1842. He enlisted as a private in the Mexican war and was commissioned a first lieutenant for onspicuous service in June, 1846. Returning to Indiana at the close of the war with Mexico he began the practice "How mu

turning to Indiana at the close of the war with Mexico he began the practice of the law, and as a democrat was elected a delegate to the constitutional convention of the state in 1850. In 1851 he was elected judge of the circuit court of the third judicial circuit, and at the expiration of his term in 1854 was appointed one of the judges of the state supreme court to fill a vacancy. The same year his party nominated him for the regular term, but he was defeated by Hon. Samuel Gookins, republican and know-nothing candidate. The year following, 1855, he served as president of the democratic state convention. following, 1855, he served as president of the democratic state convention, leisure or else should be a professional man; doctor or lawyer admissible, but minister preferred. That Edith should marry a mere farmer was preposterous. Moreover, Mr. Boulonger did not like Hendrickson for a reason that will late appear.

"It will be useless to speak to father," said Edith to John one Christmas eve. "He will never give his consent to my marrying you."

"Nevertheless I will speak to him," replied the bold lover. "He shall know that I dare to face him."

Mr. Boulonger sat in his library when the young man was ushered into his presence. The eccentric gentleman assumed an air of dignity and clothed his countenance with an ominous frown. He believed that his demeanor alone would dishearten his intended victim. But Hendrickson was not away and at all. Aristocratic pretensions had no effect upon the independent."

"For God's salke!" cried a voice in the American event to make him denies.

"For God's salke!" cried a voice in the American event to make him denies.

"For God's salke!" cried a voice in the American event the net of the cane and of the the damb thing around the house!" and on the carriage in his guarant to the republic of Peru in 1855, which can be republic of Peru in 1855, which could stan a week without completence and refract on the tender had a sid of a funny-lecture man of five dollars."

And then the society all crowded the first to tender his services to the cause of the union at the opening of hostilities between the north and the south in 1861. In August, 1861, he was commissioned colonel of the Twenty-fourth regiment, Indiana volunteers, and in 1850 the services to the cause of the union at the opening of hostilities between the north and the south in 1861. In August, 1861, he was commissioned colonel of the Twenty-fourth regiment, Indiana volunteers, and in 1871, 1862, was promoted to the rank of brigadier general of volunteers. He served under Gens. Fremont and Hunter in Missouri during 1861 and was with Gen. Sherman in his famous march to the sea. As a brigade in the battles

darkness, "do not shoot again. I am until 1870, when he resigned and re-John Hendrickson." until 1870, when he resigned and re-turned to Indiana. In 1887 he was "Ha! it is you, you rascal. Just what I've expected; you've become a robber. I'll dispose of you so that district, defeating James E. McCul-"Ha! it is you, you raseal. Just aid Mr. Boulonger, in weighty tones. what I've expected; you've become a robber. I'll dispose of you so that you'll never sell another dried up you'll never sell another dried up to congressional district, defeating James E. McCulortantone is that you do not belong to coultured family and are not college each You are neither an Artium Baccarete You are neither an Artium Baccarete. Hendrickson.

"Ha! It is you, you raseal. Just a republicant to the First congressional district, defeating James E. McCulouph, democrat. While serving his term as congressman he was nominated for governor by the republicans in 1888 and was elected, defeating Matson, democrat. While serving his true are republicant to the First congressional district, defeating James E. McCulouph, democrat. While serving his congress from the First congressional district, defeating James E. McCulouph, democrat. While serving his congressional district, defeating James E. McCulouph, democrat. While serving his congress from the First congressional district, defeating James E. McCulouph, democrat. While serving his congressional district, defeating James E. McCulouph, democrat. While serving his congressional district, defeating James E. McCulouph, democrat. While serving his congressional district, defeating James E. McCulouph, democrat. While serving his congressional district, defeating James E. McCulouph, democrat. While serving his congressional district, defeating James E. McCulouph, democrat. While serving his congressional district, defeating James E. McCulouph, democrat. While serving his congressional district, defeating James E. McCulouph, democrat. While serving his congressional congress from the First congressional district, defeating James E. McCulouph, democrat. While serving his congressional congressional district, defeating James E. McCulouph, democrat. While serving his congressional congressional congressional district, defeating James E. McCulouph, democrat. While serving his congressional congressi "Father, oh, father, spare him! It is democrat, by 2,200 plurality.

By the Card. Chollie-Er-aw-Miss Figg, may I dare to offeh my heart and hand to the fairest of her sex, the wose without a Miss Laura-Mr. Sophleigh, you are

the fourth to propose to me in those very same words. Chollie—Ya-as. All of ouah fellahs use that fawm of pwoposal, dont'cherknow. -Indianapolis Journal.

First Police Captain—I am going to put a stop to this gambling business in my precinct. door. Every object about me was familiar. I descended to the kitchen and lt is a disgrace to the city, but I don't think you can stop it.
"I'll bet a hundred, I can." "I'll go you, old man."-Texas Sift-

> Power of Will.
>
> Expectant Nephew—How is my rich uncle to day?
>
> Family Doctor — Much better. His goes."—Brooklyn Life. uncle to day?

will keeps him alive Nephew (sadly) I'm afraid that's so toward years ago, and I don't believe he'll die while that will is in existence. - Good

of declare, 1 believe 1 did," said SOME CHRISTMAS THOUGHTS.



It is a mighty doesn't erowd mas. every one to the verge of penury as it does me, but then every one hasn't such a penchant for

keeping always in the neighborhood of penury as I have.

Awhile ago my father took it into his head that there was money in raising hogs, so he paid \$40 for some squealers, fed them \$60 worth of corn and sold \$78.60 worth of pork. A drift-ing toward a sort of pig penury, he

One Christmas followeth so closely one Christmas followeth so closely upon the heels of another that the space of time, after it is past, is but as a tale that is told or a Waterbury watch in the night. A Christmas past delighteth us not, but a Christmas present is a joy to our soul. And it is the Christmas present, Heaven strengthen us, that we all have to deal with.

For my part I never know what to buy. Only once have I had things all cut and dried for me. A little while before last Christmas I gave my celebrated funny lecture in a New England village, doing a one night stand for the benefit of the L. S. R. G. S. S. H. society of the brick church with shingle roof sitnate on the west side of the street as you leave the town. The name of the



rganization I found was the Ladies Sewing, Reaping, Gossiping and Sending Socks to the Heathen society. Which Heathen society they sent them to I never learned.

Quite a good many people listened to my remarks, without more signs of pain than I have noticed everywhere. As one of the committeewomen remarked, facetiously, afterward, "there was more in the audience than there was in

I noticed that no one seemed to be GOVERNOR HOVEY.

Eveutful Career of Indiana's Late Chief Executive.

Alvin P. Hovey was born on a farm near Mount Vernon, Posey county, Ind., September 6, 1821, and was educated in the country schools and by private teachers. In 1840 he was a schoolteacher, and while so engaged pursued so engaged pursued the study of law Christmas, we'd have you auction the

quilt off." So I got up and held up the quilt and and everybody applauded and seemed

have; six will you give me? Going at James Boulonger dashed out of his and in 1856 President Franklin five-five-fi-fi-fi-fi-fi-fi-do I hear the mas dinner the next day, had been stored in a sideboard. The silver had not been disturbed.

W. E. Niblack. He was among the bid?—and sold to a poor, misguided fool ot been disturced.

"We are just in time," cried Rudolph.

The rascals would soon have secured of the union at the opening of hostil
And then the society all crowded.

dolph put another cartridge in his gun and quite boldly opened the door connecting the entry with the cellar.

"For God's sake!" cried a voice in the "For God's sake!" cried without going stark mad.
CHARLES NEWTON HOOD.

Mrs. Dimsite-Willy, have you seen

my sleeve buttons?
Little Willy Dimsite — Yes'm. couldn't find his own this morning, so he took yours.

Mrs. Dimsite—All right. I'll wear Mrs. Dimsite—All right. I'll wear his. They must be in plain sight some-

"Have you anything new?" asked a customer of a recently engaged clerk in a Chicago book store.
"I'll see," replied the young man as he swept his eye over the shelves.
"Yes, here's "The New Testament."
World you like to look at it?"—Life. Would you like to look at it?"-Life.

A Late Literary Produc

Her Adorer - May I marry your daughter, sir?

Her Father-What do you want to marry for? You don't bear marked with emphasis. "I brought may husband along six to "I brought my husband along six to "I brought" A Question of Knowledge marry for? You don't know when marked with emphasis. "I brought my husband along, sir, to pay the bill."

Her Adorer-No, perhaps not; but know when you're well off.-Life. The Man of the House. "Now that you have consented," said the happy young man, "I must see

No Need of Them. First Little Girl (proudly) We use brass bedsteads in our house. Second Little Girl—We don't have to

How a Humorist Secured a Useful Present Christ-child, who comes. Among the Alsatians a beautiful young girl personates this character, and, with a bell in one hand and sweetmeats in the other, she goes about the village distributing has been said, I

the coveted gifts among the children. Wooden Shoes for Kris Kringle. All over Germany Christmas is cele fortunate thing brated with much ceremony, and hun-for some of us dreds of little wooden shoes wait for that it doesn't Kris Kringle's coming. There is nothome twice. ing that clings so tenaciously to the Perhaps it childish mind as the advent of Christ-

IN THE YEAR OF GRACE, 1891.



mamma to try and make me believe that 'Santa Claus' comes down the chimney and fills my stockings. I suppose it worked all right when you were a little girl, but it is such a chestnut now! However, it pleases mamma, so I don't let on that I know."—Life.

Sober Second Thought. Head of Firm (to office boy)—Here take this box of cigars and distribut them around the office for Christmas. Office Boy-Yes sir. (Hurries off). Head of Firm-Hold on. I guess you better wait until after I go home.-Life. Quite Surprising.

Mr. Green—No, my dear, I will not tell you what I'm going to give you for Christmas. Why can't you women be content to wait and be surprised?

Mrs. Green—Oh, tell me now. If you keep your word, I'll be surprised. enough.-Puck.

The Boston Girl's Christmas She tossed her Christmas toys aside, Her face with disappointment frowning. "Oh, dear." the little maiden sighed, "I did so want another Browning!"

Everything Is Lovely, and-Mr. Kanoodie—Alu llow worken is ike me for a Christmas present? Miss Alert—Certainly, if you'll hang



Ivy-Say, Dolph, I hope Santa Claus is

Dolph-Why?

THE NIGHT BEFORE CHRISTMAS.



in it; but I jest hang it up because I think it's de proper thing ter encourage

and keep up dese old and time-hor customs."—Puck. ST. NICK SOLILOQUIZES.



struck the week's washing? - Texas

"If he loves me he will never take that girl out to ride. into the carriage. "But he loves me, nevertheless.
"He is merely trying to make me

jealous.
"I will try to be jealous, to please

Why He Was There. "This sealskin, in my opinion," said the salesman, stroking the costly fur and speaking in a confidential murmur to the mild-looking man outside the counter, "will suit the lady better than anything we have in stock.

Read His Thoughts "My wife can tell my wishes by the very expression of my eye. I never need speak."

'Nonsense! That will do in novels, but in real life..." "Fact, I assure. I know she must guess my wishes, because she always goes and does just the contrary."—Philadelphia Times wers.

"I wonder why the Mediterranean is

"You'd be blue if you had to wash, the Italian shore."—Life.

HURRAH FOR CHRISTMAS.



with joy divine and then an

But gladder, O. are those who know the swe bilss of giving.

The girls and boys hall Christmas jeys with eagerness excited.

The babe in arms at Christmas charms claps little hands, delighted—

But old folks all, who then recall sweet child-bood's memories clinging.

Have thrice the fun of anyone when Christmas bells are ringing.

When cold winds blow and heap the snow and woods are bleak and dreary.
The Christmas tree aglow we see in homes all warm and cheery.
And faces bright reflect its light and merry voices minele.

voices mingle,
While from above look down with love glad
angels and Kriss Kringle. Hurrah for merry Christmas when we all are

so jolly,
And yule logs blaze with brightest rays on mintietoe and holly;
And ple and cake and puddings make the feasters rounder growing.
And good Saint Nick fills stockings quick with



at this time of the year, to bear the evergreen, the holly and the mistletoe from the forests to decorate their tem-ples, long before the grasses and the corn leaves rustled about the head of that marvelous child in Bethlehem's

Grave and dignified men, during the Saturnalian days of southern climes, at our Christmas period indulged in the "feast of fools" when they gave way to all of a boy's abandon hilarity, ages anterior to that era, "when the wise men from the east" bent in wrapt contemplation over the Baby Boy, who lay in sweet unconsciousness in the mange

Out of the twilight of heathen countries has come the children's custom of hanging the stocking near the fireplace for the good fairy to fill with knick-knacks so dear to the child's heart.

It is an evidence of the real character of our Christmas spirit that it could se-cure to its service, for the illustration or to its service, for the illustration of its own spirit, these and other customs, as it is also an evidence of the generous breath of Christianity's spirit to receive, employ and honor every good custom of man.

A light heart, a merry countena

with the day.

It is a day of generosity, too. The best gift of Heaven was bestowed upon They tell us that the angels came Heaven with rapturous songs of joy, congratulating humanity in its great good fortune. We know that the only proper mood which a human being should indulge upon the reception of such news, and the commemoration of such an occasion, is a joyous one-congreat as to surpass his power to disso great as to surpass his power to dis-play it. A tender, loving, vital alliance has been formed by the Creator with

our natures. Finite are we? But Christ-mas tells us that we are in bonds with the Infinite. Poor are we, limited to a little earth? But Christmas tells us that we are heirs of the unbounded But the true spirit of Christmas will not be recognized if the favors be-stowed, at least some of them, are not for some more unfortunate person. The poor, the sick, the outcast, the de-graded, the weak and defenseless are the proper ones to excite our generosity.

It is a day also of good will. "Peace on earth and good will to men," sang

the angels.

Old grudges are to be buried on this day. Every human being is to be metin a kindly spirit. A cessation of hostilities is to be announced, and a general amnesty should be proclaimed. The pipe of peace—if any pipe is to be smoked—should be smoked first, and reconciliations be effected.

It is a cosmopolitan day In celebrat-ing Christmas we are not Americans, or Englishmen, or Germans. but citizens of the world, for this is the only festival in which the civilized world joins. Peace on all the wide earth, good will to every man in every land, is the sentiment of the day.

Then it is the children's day. What immense significance is contained in

immense significance is contained in that statement: But we pause, unable for space, to utter the thoughts which rise and the emotions which crowd within our hearts at the mention of the shildren. May everyone of them have smerry Christmas! FLAVIUS J. BROBST

A Good Reason.

At a social gathering a widow dfd not engage in tripping the light fantastic toe. A gentleman approached her and "Are you going to dance this ever

ing?"
"Not until after midnight."
"Why not before?"
"Because to-day is the anniversary
of my second husband's death."—Texas Siftings. Spurgeon's Little Prans Rev. C. H. Spurgeon used to be very fond of puzzling his friends with words which have a double meaning. One Thursday evening, after the usual week-night service, he thus addressed his

deacons: "Brethren, I think it is much too bad that not a single deacon followed me on the platform in time for the service this evening." The deacons at once to-gan to exonerate themselves. One said: "I beg your pardon, sir, but I oppred the dear for went of the dear for what of the conthe door for you to go down to the rostrum and at once followed you," and several others stated that they were close behind the first speaker. Here was a dilemma, the beloved and highly respected pastor saying one thing and the faithful and devoted deacons stating just the contrary After a few minutes' silence the pastor with a smile brightening his homely countenance. brightening his homely counted replied "I am right in saying single deacon followed me, as y all married."

